

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, EGEN, EEWT, EAGR, CSCE, SHUM, CVIS,

SUBJECT: POLISH AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON ASSISTANT
SECRETARY VEST

REF: WARSAW 91046

1. SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI PAID HIS FIRST FORMAL
CALL ON VEST APRIL 14. SPASOWSKI OUTLINED HIS MAIN TASKS
HERE, AND THE TWO REVIEWED US-POLISH RELATIONS. END
SUMMARY.

2. FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. SPASOWSKI OBSERVED THAT IN HIS
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DISCUSSION WITH THE PRESIDENT AT THE CREDENTIALS PRESENTA-
TION CEREMONY APRIL 7 HE HAD NOT HAD A CHANCE TO MAKE ALL
THE POINTS HE WANTED, BECAUSE THE PRESIDENT WAS CALLED
AWAY, AS SPASOWSKI LATER LEARNED, TO TAKE A LONG-DISTANCE
CALL FROM FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING. SPASOWSKI
SAID HE HAD WANTED TO EXPRESS HIS COMMITMENT TO DO HIS
BEST TO ELIMINATE POINTS OF DIFFERENCE IN OUR RELATIONS

WHILE AT THE SAME TIME TRYING TO STIMULATE COOPERATION IN ALL POSSIBLE AREAS. SPASOWSKI THEN RECALLED THAT IN HIS TALK WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS THE DAY BEFORE, LUERS HAD CITED THE QUESTIONS OF DIVIDED FAMILIES AND VISA PROBLEMS AS POINTS OF DIFFERENCE ON OUR SIDE

WHILE SPASOWSKI HAD NAMED HARASSMENT OF POLISH OFFICIALS AS A PROBLEM ON THE POLISH SIDE. SPASOWSKI STRESSED THAT NEITHER SIDE SHOULD ALLOW THESE QUESTIONS TO BE EXAGGERATED.

3. SPASOWSKI STRESSED HIS PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE DIVIDED FAMILIES PROBLEM--THROUGH "HUNDREDS OF DISCUSSIONS" WITH AMBASSADOR DAVIES--AND HIS UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICAN VIEWS. HE SAID HE HAS ALWAYS TRIED TO FIND SOLUTIONS WHERE POSSIBLE AND EXPRESSED A COMMITMENT TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE. HE SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THESE QUESTIONS WITH POLISH OFFICIALS WHEN HE RETURNS FOR CONSULTATIONS IN MAY. CONCLUDING, SPASOWSKI DECLARED WE SHOULD TRY TO SETTLE THESE DIFFERENCES SO WE CAN GET ON WITH THE OTHER WORK IN OUR RELATIONS.

4. VEST RESPONDED THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD PUT THE ISSUE OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION IN POSITIVE TERMS. VEST NOTED THAT THERE ARE STILL SERIOUS PROBLEMS, AND SAID HE HAS ASKED LUERS AND THE PEOPLE IN THE OFFICE OF EASTERN CONFIDENTIAL

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EUROPEAN AFFAIRS TO WORK WITH SPASOWSKI AND HIS STAFF TO FIND SOLUTIONS. VEST STRESSED THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO DO SO, BECAUSE THE AMERICAN PUBLIC IS INTERESTED AND ITS ATTITUDES HAVE AN IMPORTANT EFFECT ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. THE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT ISSUES SHOULD NOT SOUR THESE RELATIONS, AND RESOLUTION OF THESE QUESTIONS WILL CREATE A BETTER ATMOSPHERE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT WE SEEK.

5. SPASOWSKI REPLIED THAT HE HAD NOT CONVEYED THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS TO WARSAW, BECAUSE HE REGARDED THEM AS A "GENEROUS" DEPICTION OF THE SITUATION. IF HE HAD CONVEYED THEM AS STATED, SOME POLISH OFFICIALS WOULD HAVE DRAWN SATISFACTION FROM THE FACT THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD INDICATED THERE IS NO PROBLEM, WHEN SPASOWSKI KNOWS THAT IS NOT THE CASE. VEST, REITERATING THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD WANTED TO PUT THE SITUATION IN THE BEST LIGHT, PRAISED SPASOWSKI FOR UNDERSTANDING THIS AND ACTING IN THE FINEST DIPLOMATIC TRADITION.

6. SPASOWSKI'S MISSION. AT THE OUTSET SPASOWSKI HAD SAID HE INTENDS TO CONCENTRATE HIS CALLS, INITIALLY AT

LEAST, ON THOSE OFFICIALS WITH A DIRECT INTEREST IN OUR BILATERAL AFFAIRS. STRESSING HIS INTEREST IN FURTHER PROGRESS IN OUR RELATIONS AND IN RECEIVING SOME "ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE," SPASOWSKI SIGNED AS HIS "CRUCIAL TASK" THE QUESTION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FINANCIAL CREDITS. HE SAID HE WOULD PROCEED DELIBERATELY WITH HIS MISSION, FIRST BY MAKING ACQUAINTANCES HERE AND

GAINING IMPRESSIONS OF THE ATTITUDE OF AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND CONGRESSMEN TOWARD POLAND'S REQUESTS. SPASOWSKI ALLUDED TO PROPOSED LEGISLATION ON AGRICULTURAL CREDITS IN THIS REGARD. SAYING HE WILL ALSO WANT THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THESE MATTERS, SPASOWSKI SAID HE WOULD THEN DISCUSS HIS IMPRESSIONS WITH POLISH LEADERS DURING

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HIS CONSULTATIONS AT THE END OF MAY. HE ALSO SAID HE WOULD ASK FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE SECRETARY BEFORE DEPARTING FOR WARSAW.

7. POINTING TO THE BROAD UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, ESTABLISHED BY THE PREVIOUS THREE "SUMMIT" MEETINGS AND THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT VISIT, SPASOWSKI EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ABOUT US-POLISH RELATIONS. HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THE RELATIONSHIP, EXPLAINING THAT, ALTHOUGH HE HAD CITED ECONOMIC ISSUES, HE FEELS THERE SHOULD BE PROGRESS ON A BROAD FRONT. THEN, HAVING IN MIND THE UPCOMING MEETING OF THE JOINT BOARD ON SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COOPERATION, HE DISCUSSED IN GENERAL TERMS THE NEED FOR FINDING WAYS OF CONTINUING OUR LARGE COOPERATION PROGRAM.

8. REGARDING INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, SPASOWSKI SAID THE KEY QUESTION FOR POLAND AND US-POLISH RELATIONS IS THE FUTURE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION. VEST EMPHASIZED OUR DESIRE TO MAKE PROGRESS ON SALT. HE INDICATED THAT THE SECRETARY'S TRIP TO MOSCOW MAY LEAD TO A RETURN VISIT BY THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER AND FURTHER PROGRESS ON SALT; HE SAID WE HOPE FOR A SETTLEMENT THIS SUMMER. NOTING THAT THERE ARE UPS AND DOWNS IN US-SOVIET RELATIONS AND CITING AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE LATTER OUR CONCERNS ABOUT SOVIET AND CUBAN ACTIVITY IN AFRICA, VEST SAID OUR FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE IS TO ACHIEVE A SALT AGREEMENT, AND WE REALIZE FULL WELL THAT THESE THINGS HAVE AN EFFECT ON POLAND. SPASOWSKI CONCURRED BY NOTING THAT SUCH THINGS AS A VISIT BY FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK NEXT YEAR AND US EXTENSION OF AGRICULTURAL CREDITS CAN ALL

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BE ACHIEVED MORE EASILY IN A GOOD INTERNATIONAL ATMOS-
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